(b) and (c) Yes, Sir, The proposal including those of some other States is under consideration. But due to paucity of funds, it is not possible to allocate additional funds immediately however, as and when position improves, the demand of the Government of Maharashtra would be favourably looked into keeping in view the factors like availability of funds etc.

Development of National Highway in Andhra Pradesh

420. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to develop and improve National Highways in Andhra Pradesh with the assistance of oversea economic fund and Asian Development Bank; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Widening to four lanes from km 358/0 to 395/875 of Vijayawada-Vishakhapatnam Section and km 0/0 to 2/837 of Vishakhapatnam-Bhubaneswar Section of National Highway No. 5 and strengthening of the existing carriageway is being undertaken with the assistance of Asian Development Bank.

Landslides due to deforestation

421. SHRI JAGMOHAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been recently made to assess the increasing menace of landslides due to deforestation;

(b) if so, what are the findings of that study;

(c) whether any technological mechanism has been evolved and implemented to prevent landslides at vulnerable points on roads of strategic and special importance; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) No study has been conducted by this Ministry for assessment of increasing menace of landslides with specific reference to deforestation.

(c) and (d) No technological mechanism has been evolved so far to prevent landslides in advance as it depends upon a numerous factors such as the cut-slope, drainage soil characteristics, geotechnical conditions and forest cover etc. Nevertheless studies for control of landslides and implementation of remedial measures have been carried out by Central Road Research Institctes and other allied agencies on case to case basis.

Setting up of drivers training schools

422. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:
SHRI IQBAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Road Safety Committee set up by the Transport Ministry in the year 1982 had recommended for setting up Driver Training Schools in the States as on national level;

(b) if so, whether a number of schools for providing training to the Drivers were set up by the State Governments and Union Territories;

(c) if so, what were the total number of schools set up so far in Madhya Pradesh;

(d) how many persons were provided training in Madhya Pradesh;

(e) to what extent it has been beneficial for Madhya Pradesh; and

(f) what were the funds allocated for this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The Committee had, inter-alia, recommended that the Government may set up